

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)	MAIL STOP: PCT
LAURI ESKOLA)	Attention: DO/EO/US
Application No.: Unassigned)	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Filed: March 22, 2005)	Examiner: Unassigned
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR)	Confirmation No.: Unassigned
EXCLUDING ENTRY OF DEBRIS INTO)	
AN OUTER SEAL OF A SHAFT)	
PASSING THROUGH THE HULL OF A)	
MARITIME VESSEL)	

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a national phase filing of International Application No. PCT/FI2003/000694, filed September 24, 2003.

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant submits information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

Copies of the International Search Report dated December 2, 2003, and the International Preliminary Examination Report dated December 22, 2004 are submitted herewith. Applicant also provides copies of the three (3) items cited in the International Search Report.

In the International Preliminary Examination Report claims were found to satisfy the criteria for novelty, inventive step, and industrial applicability.

Applicant also provides a copy of U.S. Patent No. 5,219,434 that is discussed at Page 1 of Applicant's Specification.

For the convenience of the Examiner, a form PTO-1449 is attached. It is requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned once the above items are considered.


The examination and allowance of the Application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date March 22, 2005

By:


Benton S. Duffett, Jr.
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO

Complete Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Application Number	Unassigned 10/528769
Filing Date	March 22, 2005
First Named Inventor	LAURI ESKOLA
Examiner Name	Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number	032221-058

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY)
	3,934,952		GARDNER	January 27, 1976
	5,219,434		VON BERGEN <i>et al.</i>	June 15, 1993

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Document Number	Kind Code (if known)	Country	Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY)	STATUS						
					Translation	Partial Translation	Eng. Lang. Summary	Search Report	IPER	Abstract	Cited in Spec
	912,403		Great Britain	December 5, 1962							
	1,522,739		Great Britain	August 31, 1978							

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.